

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director*



Contact:
Jim Menard, Area Management Biologist
Hilary Upicksoun, Salmon Catch Monitor
Phone: (907) 442-3420 or 1-800-560-2271
Fax: (907) 443-5893

Nome Area Office
P.O. Box 1148
Nome, Alaska 99762
Date Issued: 8/7/2012
Time: 4:30 p.m.

KOTZEBUE COMMERCIAL SALMON FISHING OPENING

Commercial salmon fishing will be open for 3 hours from the hours of 6 p.m. Tuesday, August 7 until 9 p.m. Tuesday, August 7.

Fishermen are reminded to check with Great Pacific if the buyer needs to shorten the hours they will buy fish because of limited capacity or airline schedules.

During last night's 4 hour fishing period 51 permit holders caught 10,537 chum salmon. The buyer told permit holders to stop fishing 1 ½ hours into the period, but some permit holders continued to fish all 4 hours. Catches were likely above average, but without accurate numbers as to how long each permit holder fished the catch rate is difficult to assess.

Chum salmon catches at the department test fish project on the Kobuk River at Kiana continue to skyrocket with yesterday's catch setting a new daily catch index record. Cumulative catches at the test fish project rank 5th highest in the 20-year project history and the cumulative ranking is expected to move higher in the next several days.

If you have any questions concerning the fishery you can call the Kotzebue office at 442-3420, or the Commercial Fisheries office in Nome at 1-800-560-2271 or the buyer at 442-4192.